

SB 1504 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

Action Date: 02/09/22

Action: Do pass and requesting referral to Finance and Revenue.

Vote: 4-2-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, Prozanski

Nays: 2 - Heard, Linthicum

Exc: 1 - Thatcher

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Whitney Perez, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates crime of facilitating unlawful greyhound betting as a Class C felony. Creates crime of unlawful greyhound betting as a Class A misdemeanor. Makes conforming amendments. Takes effect July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Possible fiscal impact of the measure
- The treatment of greyhound racing dogs
- Enforceability and regulation of existing law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, there are no greyhound racing tracks in Oregon. Oregon law governs Multi-Jurisdictional Simulcasting and Interactive Wagering Totalizator Hubs. ORS 462.725. These Hubs are a business that allow wagering on races including greyhound races. OAR 462-220-0010.

Persons whose residence is outside of Oregon can establish accounts in these Hubs to wager on greyhound racing if greyhound racing is lawful in that person's principal residence. OAR 462-220-0020(2). Nine states (including Oregon) plus certain towns in Rhode Island permit greyhound racing.

Senate Bill 1504 makes it a crime to facilitate or bet on greyhound racing, regardless of the state or country where the race occurs. Specifically, the measure makes it a Class C felony to facilitate greyhound betting and a Class A misdemeanor to wager on greyhound racing.